#### "FORGIVING" NEAR WAR-BRIDES

Foreign governments are about to "forgive," officially, the "war-brides" and illegitimate mothers. How noble of them! exclaims the Los Anleges Graphic, and continues: The first requirement of a government official, apparently, is an utter lack of sense of humor, otherwise he could never look his work in the face. After all kinds of appeals to men to rush to arms to serve their countries; with the throb of drum-beats and blare of trumpets exciting every youthful impulse to a state of frenzy; with the constant cry heard that the flower of the country is marching out to perish, what wonder if thousands of girls not able to serve by fighting, forbidden even to go as nurses, should give themselves to motherhood and their country's future with the same exaltation that the man feels as he follows the colors!

According to a London dispatch, the army doctors and clergymen who are "studying" the subject are of the opinion that the women are attracted by the "physical perfection and trappings of the soldiers." Piffle! These must be the same men who are going to do the "forgiving" act. Is it not quite as likely that the woman hardly sees the personality of the man? He stands for an ideal and brass buttons have little bearing on the case. It is not a time to count the cost; the women are implored and besought by every argument and appeal to serve their country in its time of need. Hasty marriages and marriages in which "love" plays little part have been encouraged and made possible by the highest authorities. It is a short step from that to the elimination of the few words of conventional sanction, where the purpose is

What takes a man from business, from family,

from every obligation of a personal, well-ordered life, to hurl himself into battle and possible death? Is it the fascination of the gilt buttons, on the coat they give him to wear? How insulted he would be by the suggestion. And when he faces death in a spectacular manner, he gets an iron cross, or its equivalent. When the woman faces death her reward is 'forgiveness.' But does any one criticize his manners or consider him other than a shining hero? No one has ever thought of "forgiving" him, even when his methods are wasteful, and the future of the human race receives a fair share of his attention, if the war correspondents are to be relied upon.

It is all a part of the frenzy of war and should of the glorified in one case and belittled and formed in the other. War is a road with strange by paths and an uncertain end. Much that is new and unexpected is bound to come out of this hideous chaos. World temperance and a new social order are already in view. Old standards are being swept away and certainly shame is not a birthright of an innocent babe born in the stress of war. England is not afraid of Germany, but she is all too shy of facing hard facts. Let us have no more glorification of men and "forgiving" of women for what is virtually the same end—the exaltation of war.

#### THE PASSING OF LAMBARDI

The recent death in Portland of Mario Lambardi, the grand opera impressario removes a unique figure from the world of music and leaves vacant, for the present at least, a place that no one else seems to have qualified himself to fill, says the Town Crier of Seattle in commenting on his death. Lambardi has confined his efforts for the past ten years to the cities of the Pacific

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